

REMARKS

Claims 1-32 and 34-42 are pending herein.

I. The obviousness rejections of claims 1-20 based on Gelbart (US 5,305,091), as noted on page 3 of the Office Action.

The USPTO respectfully rejects claims 1-20 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable based on Gelbart in view of Sciaky. Claim 1 is an independent claim.

A. The cited references do not teach or suggest that the rotatable portion is mounted on the stationary portion, as claimed in claim 1.

Claim 1 claims in relevant part:

“a stationary portion having at least a first laser radiation source and at least a first optical detector;

a rotatable portion mounted on the stationary portion, and ~~that is~~ rotatable with respect to the stationary portion.” (**emphasis added**) |

Regarding these limitations, it is respectfully not seen where the cited references teach or suggest the claimed structure quoted above.

For example, the USPTO respectfully argues that there is a stationary portion having at least a first laser radiation source 32. It is respectfully important to note that the USPTO has not identified any specific structure of Gelbart that corresponds to the specifically claimed stationary portion of claim 1.

Additionally the USPTO respectfully argues on page 2 of the Office Action that transceiver 3 of Gelbart is the specifically claimed rotatable portion, and argues on page 4 of the Office Action that transceivers 3 are mounted on “stable points.” However, there is no teaching or suggestion at all in Gelbart that these “stable points” are the specifically claimed stationary portion of claim 1 that includes a first laser radiation source and a first optical detector, as claimed in claim 1. In other words, Gelbart does not teach or suggest at all that the transceivers 3 (i.e., the purported rotatable portions) are mounted on the

same stationary portion structure that includes purported laser radiation source 32 and purported first optical detector 38.

In contrast, present Figures 1-3 illustrate at least one possible embodiment of the claimed structure quoted above. For example, present Figure 1 shows a stationary base 101 (i.e., a stationary portion) that includes lasers 102, 104 (i.e., a first laser radiation source) and absolute distance meter 103 (which includes at least a first optical detector), and **a rigid structure 190 (i.e., a rotatable portion) that is mounted on stationary base 101**. Thus, it is respectfully asserted that rigid structure 190 is one possible embodiment of the specifically claimed rotatable portion mounted on the stationary portion that includes a first laser radiation source and a first optical detector, as claimed in claim 1.

The distinction noted above is important and non-trivial because it results in significant advantages over conventional devices. For example, as noted on page 5 of the present specification, the specifically claimed structure of claim 1 allows **for improved laser beam steering, six degree of freedom measurements, and the capability to locate multiple retroreflectors distributed throughout large volumes**. Additionally, the specifically claimed device of claim 1 can be easily manufactured at a low cost without requiring complex beam-steering optics.

Thus, it is respectfully asserted that Gelbart does not teach or suggest all of the limitations of independent claim 1. Therefore, it is respectfully asserted that independent claim 1 is allowable over Gelbart.

B. The dependent claims.

As noted above, it is respectfully asserted that independent claim 1 is allowable, and therefore it is further respectfully asserted that dependent claims 2-20 are also allowable.

III. Conclusion.

Reconsideration and allowance of all of the claims is respectfully requested.

If there are any additional charges with respect to this Amendment or otherwise, please charge them to Deposit Account No. 06-1130.

Please contact the undersigned for any reason. Applicants seek to cooperate with the Examiner including via telephone if convenient for the Examiner.

Respectfully submitted,

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